NEWS FROM THE BOE

Monday, October 27, 2025

The Morris School District Board of Education held a meeting on Monday, October 27th, at the Morristown High School Learning Commons. It was a busy evening filled with presentations and special recognitions.

Student Recognition:
Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) Program

Presented By:
Marietta Scorsune, Morristown High School Assistant Principal
Denise Vega-Moore, Supervisor of World Language

The Council on International Educational Exchange is a nonprofit study abroad program that has been operating since 1947. Morristown High School students participated in this program during the 2025 summer.

Since 2016, approximately 200 students from Morristown High School have traveled with the Council on International Exchange to places including China, Spain, Italy, Germany, and much more. Students have earned funding in scholarships from this incredible opportunity. View the full presentation **HERE**.

CIEE Student Participants

- Jimena Arita - Rome, Italy
- Jaida Blair - Shanghai, China
- Maya Chowdhury - Madrid, Spain
- Allison Crean - Berlin, Germany
- Julian Croce- Galis - Barcelona, Spain
- Jaylen Fleming- Tokyo, Japan
- Tara Foley - Sydney, Australia
- Justin Giardina - Rome, Italy
- Penelope Jameson - Paris, France
- Loretta Langlois - Madrid, Spain
- Samantha Lima - Kyoto, Japan
- Robert Mauriello - Rome, Italy
- Liam McDonald - Barcelona, Spain
- Emily Patino - Barcelona, Spain
- Skye Romano, Rome, Italy
- Jada Smith - Mallorca, Spain
- Ryan Snyder - Taipei, Taiwan
- Jeffrey Vasquez - Madrid, Spain
- Gavin Wasner - Kyoto, Japan
- Genesis Urbina - Mallorca, Spain

CIEE Global Ambassador

Elena Deleppo - Madrid, Spain

Seal of Biliteracy

Presented By:
Marietta Scorsune, Morristown High School Assistant Principal
Denise Vega-Moore, Supervisor of World Language



The New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by the New Jersey Department of Education in recognition of students who have attained proficiency in at least one language in addition to English by high school graduation. Twenty-one Morristown High School students have earned this prestigious award to date, and we anticipate honoring even more in the spring.

The honored students have successfully earned the Seal of Biliteracy in a range of languages, including French, Spanish, Chinese, and Italian. To obtain the Seal of Biliteracy, students must demonstrate both language proficiency through an approved language assessment and proficiency in English through the ELA graduation benchmark assessments.

Earning the Seal of Biliteracy provides students with college and academic advantages. The Seal is recognized as a valuable credential, and therefore, it helps an applicant stand out to admission teams. Many colleges and universities offer college credit or scholarships for students who demonstrate biliteracy proficiency.

The Seal of Biliteracy also provides students with future career and professional advantages. Bilingualism is a highly sought-after skill that makes candidates more marketable for positions. There are increased job opportunities for bilingual candidates because they demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate with diverse populations.

The American Exchange Project

Presented By: Brienne Stevenson
6th Grade English Teacher

The American Exchange Project is coming to MSD for graduating seniors.



Click HERE to view the full presentation

The American Exchange Project is a free domestic exchange program where students have the opportunity to spend a week in another state with a host family. The program is looking for seniors who are interested in participating in this opportunity as well as host families.

Brienne Stevenson, a 6th grade English teacher from Frelinghuysen Middle School, introduced the American Exchange Program to the Board on Monday evening and will serve as the exchange manager for Morristown High School.



As an experienced exchange manager, Brienne highlighted the positive student experiences, noting that participants "were off their phones, making genuine connections, and gaining confidence for college."

To learn more about this opportunity, reach out to Brienne Stevenson at **brienne.stevenson@msdk12.net** or visit the **American Exchange Website**.

2026-2027 District Calendar Approved

The 2026-2027 District Calendar was officially approved on Monday night. The approved calendar can be found below as well as on our district website.

Stay tuned! The district is actively developing a new opportunity to expand the Community School program. Details for this expansion will be announced soon for the upcoming school year.

2026-2027 District Calendar

Morris School District State Assessment Results

Matthew Kriley, Director of Elementary Education
Brian Young, Supervisor of Science
Alexander Gentul - Supervisor of Mathematics
Kara Douma - Supervisor of English Language Arts
Sophia Kenny - Director of Guidance and Program Development



Click HERE to view the full presentation

The presentation provided an extensive overview of the Morris School District's Spring 2025 state assessment results. The team of administrators discussed the results broken down by categories: Elementary 3-5, which included ELA, math, and grade 5 science, as well as middle and high school subject areas.

The presentation showcased growth from the previous year, a comparison to the state averages, and detailed the performance of various student subgroups. Information was also provided for how the data will be used for instructional planning purposes. "While the NJSLA is an important data point, it represents just one piece of the puzzle," said Mr. Kriley. "At the elementary level, we continue to focus on maximizing instructional time, ensuring continuity of instruction and use of resources, and providing targeted supports for eligible students."

Finally, the presentation provided a five-year summary of the Advanced Placement (AP) exam scores and participation trends. Sophia Kenny thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Mucci for their continued support of the Advanced Placement Program. The Board of Education will be funding all student Advanced Placement (AP) assessments for the spring 2026 assessment period. The program is hoping to have 100% participation as a result of this generous contribution from the Board of Education.

ANTI-BULLYING BILL OF RIGHTS SELF-ASSESSMENT STUDENT SAFETY REPORTS

Antoinetta Alberta, MSD Anti-Bullying Coordinator, presented the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Self-Assessment and Student Safety Reports. The presentation reviewed key findings from the 2024-2025 ABR Self-Assessment report, which addressed student safety and compliance with the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.



Click HERE to view the full presentation

It also provided a breakdown of HIB investigations between September 2024 and June 2025. Furthermore, the presentation outlined various remedial actions for students and staff. This includes counseling for students, staff training, and continuing to promote district programs that foster inclusive communities.

JOIN MSD AT A BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Morris School District Board of Education welcomes the public to join the monthly meetings. You can learn more about the Board from the **Board of Education page** on our district website. If you are unable to attend a meeting in person, you can watch recorded meetings on **MSD On Air.** Furthermore, archived issues are available on our district website and can be found on the **News from the Board page**.

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